



Michigan House of Representatives

Detroit Caucus

"One City, One Voice"

P.O. Box 30014 – Lansing, Michigan 48909 – (517) 373-0144

June 14, 2006

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Dear Local Government and Urban Policy Committee Member,

Please be advised that the Detroit Caucus of the Michigan House of Representatives opposes House Bill 6105, legislation to put the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) in charge of regulation of the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD). This measure represents bad public policy for a multitude of reasons.

First, it seeks to impose another level of bureaucracy on DWSD which, by extension, could actually increase costs on the system customers. Note, too, that MPSC projects the bill would increase its costs as well – this at a time of limited state resources.

Additionally, there can be no denying that HB 6105 infringes on local control. The Detroit City Charter clearly states that the Detroit Board of Water Commissioners regulates DWSD including rates for water and sewer services.

House Bill 6105 also neglects the reason that MPSC does not regulate municipal utilities right now. Specifically, the law recognizes that such utilities already have public oversight. We could go on detailing the challenges of HB 6105, but suffice it to say the legislation is unnecessary. Please vote no on HB 6105.

Respectfully,

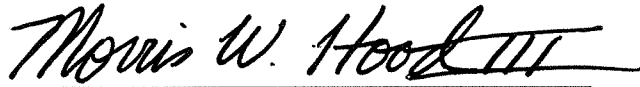
The Detroit Caucus
Michigan House of Representatives



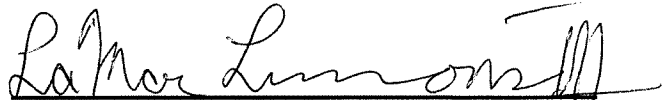
Representative Bill McConico, Chair
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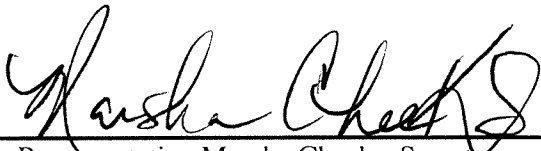
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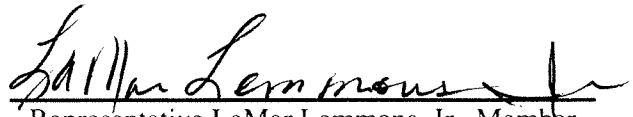
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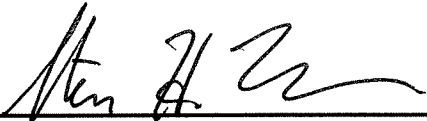
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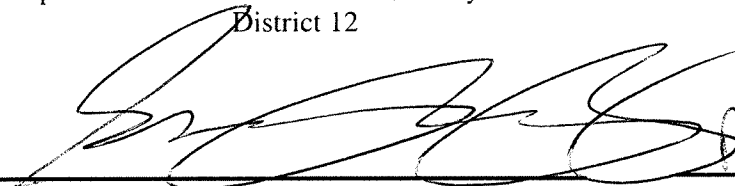
Representative LaMar Lemmons, Jr., Member
District 2



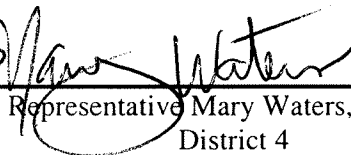
Representative Steve Tobocman, Policy Advisor
District 12



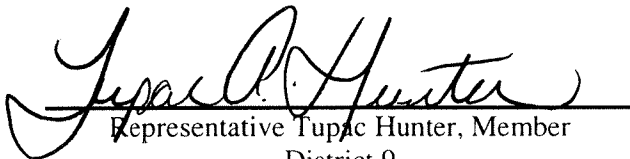
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District 7



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District 4



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